(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) The Government has been taking appropriate action against hoarders, black marketeers and profiteers under the Essential Commodities Act which include arrests, prosecutions and convictions. Selective credit controls are in operation to prevent speculative use of bank advances in respect of price sensitive essential commodities. Limits of stocks in respect of edible oils and oilseeds have also been reduced.

Progress made in regard to St. Kitts FIR

1914. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in regard to St. Kitts FIR; and

(b) whether any arrests have been made pursuant to the FIR?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) 53 files/documents have been collected and 15 important witnesses have been examined in this connection, so far.

(b) Two arrests have been made, so far.

Drawing of excess "Duty draw back" on exports by M/s. Bata India Limited

1915. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Bata India Limited had claimed and drawn excess "duty draw back" on their exports ; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that on detection of this, the Government had imposed penalty on Bata and also started prosecution against them; if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Bata India have come forward for settlement and that the matter stands settled with Bata India, if so, what are the terms of settlement;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Government have waived the penalty and have dropped prosecution in this case; and

(e) what are the other companies with whom Government have made settlement in last two years; if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir, Excess Draw back of Rs. 98.57 lakhs approximately on export of rubber/canvas footwears was claimed and drawn by misdeclaring the proportion of consumption of duty paid synthetic rubber and non-duty paid natural rubber in the export product for the period 1-9-77 to 31-8-84.

(b) On detection of the case the Government issued a show cause notice and adjudicated this case. No penalty was imposed nor was any prosecution launched.

(c) Yes, Sir. M/s. Bata India offered and paid back the entire drawback claimed by them immediately and categorically admitted their mistake for having raised incorrect drawback claim and sought forgiveness from the Government. They therefore, requested that department proceedings and prosecution be dropped.

(d) Yes, Sir, In view of the prompt repayment and unconditional apology by the party.

(e) There are no other companies with whom Government have made such settlement in the last two years.